

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for testing a network service, the method comprising:
2 sending an initial request to the network service;
3 redirecting a related request sent by the network service to an actual network
4 service such that the related request does not reach the actual network service;
5 emulating operation of the actual network service; and
6 returning at least one response to the network service being tested, the at least
7 one response being responsive to the related request.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein sending an initial request comprises
2 sending a request to the network service being tested from a mock client.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein redirecting a related request comprises
2 intercepting the related request and rerouting it to a mock network service.

- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein rerouting the related request comprises
2 rerouting the related request by identifying a network address of the actual network
3 service in a database and determining an associated network address of the mock
4 network service.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein emulating operation of the actual
2 network service comprises emulating operation of the actual network service using a
3 mock network service.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein emulating operation of the actual
2 network service using a mock network service comprises identifying request
3 information in a database and determining a pre-configured response associated with
4 the identified request information.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting a user for
2 information to be used to generate the initial request.

1 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a response
2 generated by the network service being tested, the response being reflective of the at
3 least one response returned to the network service being tested.

1 9. A system for testing network services, the system comprising:
2 means for generating an initial request;
3 means for determining what actual network services are needed satisfy the
4 request;
5 means for redirecting a related request sent by the means for determining such
6 that the related request does not reach an actual network service;
7 means for emulating operation of at least one network service; and
8 means for returning at least one response to the means for determining, the at
9 least one response being responsive to the related request.

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for generating comprise a
2 mock client.

1 11. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for determining comprise
2 the network service being tested.

1 12. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for redirecting the related
2 request comprise a redirection service.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the redirection service comprises a
2 database that correlates network addresses of actual network services with network
3 addresses of mock network services.

1 14. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for emulating comprise at
2 least one mock network service.

1 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the at least mock network service
2 comprises a database that correlates request information with pre-configured request
3 responses.

1 16. A system for testing network services, the system comprising:
2 a mock client that is configured to submit requests;
3 a redirection service that is configured to redirect requests sent out by a
4 network under test and directed at actual network services; and
5 at least one mock network service that emulates operation of at least one actual
6 network service, the at least one mock network service being configured to receive the
7 requests that have been redirected by the redirection service.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the mock client is further configured
2 to prompt a user for information to generate a request.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the mock client is configured to
2 transmit the requests as extensible markup language (XML) messages that are
3 wrapped in simple object access protocol (SOAP) envelopes.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the redirection service comprises a
2 database that correlates network addresses of actual network services with network
3 addresses of mock network services.

1 20. The system of claim 16, wherein the at least one mock network service
2 comprises a database that correlates request information with pre-configured request
3 responses.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the at least one mock network service
2 is configured to transmit responses as extensible markup language (XML) messages
3 that are wrapped in simple object access protocol (SOAP) envelopes.

1 22. A test environment stored on a computer-readable medium, the
2 environment comprising:
3 logic configured to generate an initial request;
4 logic configured to determine what actual network services are needed satisfy
5 the request and transmit a related request to an actual network service;
6 logic configured to redirect the related request such that the related request
7 does not reach the actual network service; and
8 logic configured to emulate operation of the actual network service and return
9 at least one response to the logic configured to transmit a related request, the at least
10 one response being responsive to the related request.

1 23. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to generate
2 an initial request comprises a mock client.

1 24. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to
2 determine and transmit a related request comprises a network service being tested.

1 25. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to redirect
2 the related request comprises a redirection service.

1 26. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to emulate
2 an actual network service comprises a mock network service.